State Debt-Governor's Message. Governor KENTER on yesterday sent to the Legislature a message on the subject of the public debt, which will be found in this morning's Dispatch. A memorial of the foreign bondholders accompanies the message, and to that the Governor invites the

attention of the Legislature. This message in a very clear manner presents the distressed condition of Virginia from the loss of property and the disorganization of her productive labor. Prostrate and impoverished as she is, she cannot, the Governor contends, now meet her obligations. But he argues that for the preservation of her honor and the resuscitation of ber physical interests, some measures must be taken to impart confidence to the public creditor and to pave the way for the ultimate redemption of her plighted faith.

What are these measures? The placing of the whole public debt upon the same platform, giving no form of bond the preferonce, and making all equal. This can only be done by agreement with the bond-holders who hold that form of bond which has the preference for the reason that its coupons are receivable for taxes. That matter arranged, the State shall go on to provide for the interest on two-thirds of the debt, paying as she is able, and giving certificates for unpaid interest. By increasing the means of paying as her ability increases, the interest interest absorbed, placing the State credit in a good condition, and giving life to resources at present dead, and reviving hope and en- tinance than CHARLES SUMNER.

To earry out the plan of equalizing the debt the Governor proposes that the State shall appoint two commissioners to offers a good argument to show that the holders of bonds issued under the funding act have really little or no advantage, as is to that of others, and he believes they will surrender the supposed advantage they have for the sake of an arrangement which will make their claims secure, and assure the steady payment of interest upon them.

The Governor earnestly expresses his objections to the funding act, and asserts that it is the cause of great present embarrassfrom the obligation compelling the State officers to receive the coupons of those bonds in the inauguration of an efficient system for publican. reviving the public credit and ultimately re. deeming the public faith.

The Governor before concluding his mes-"true that the United States by interposing "dent creditors;" and he adds:

"When the present financial panie shall pass away, it may be reasonably expected that the common government, which recelved wealth and power from the muniticence of Virginia in the past, will, at the least, and us with the meagre justice of a Ioan of its bonds, or credit to be used in securing and exanguishing the public debt."

We trust that the Governor has some encourag ment with reference to the disposition of the bondholders that has not been manifested publicly. We have seen nothing that would lead us to hope that those who have an advantage under the funding act will very readily surrender it.

Nevertheless, the Governor makes a strong case to show why they should do so.

For ourselves, we say what we are convinced is true when we say that the funding act has greatly demoralized public sentiment, and that the detestation of it is so great that many gentlemen seem determined tion was referred to the Committee on Fito do nothing in the way of increasing the nance and ordered to be printed. public revenue as long as the holders of the bonds issued under that act stand at the door of the Treasury intercepting the money that is

We think that the bondholders would better clear away this bad temper and the impracticability it engenders. It would put their relations with Virginia, we are sure, on a better footing. But will they be reasoned into this idea?

We would rather the Governor had been a little more emphatic as to one point, and that is: no matter what arrangements there may be with the bondholders, the people must acquiesce in decided measures for maintaining the public credit. That cannot be revived without such an earnest disposition to pay as can alone be afforded by paying. And we would rather that the Executive of Virginia should suggest nothing about aid from the Federal Government. That may induce a disposition to relax exertions in the hope of help that we believe will never come. The Federat Government acknowledges no obligations to the South where the obligation costs anything. The ready answer will always be " you brought all this on yourselves."

Nevertheless we know how patriotic he is and how devoutly he prays for the maintenance of the honor of Virginia. That he makes the suggestions that are in the message inspires the hope that he has lights which are not seen by others to lead him along his way.

The Moieties Swindle -has been well exposed in the Congresgional investigations. The scoundrels who have been let loose by the Government upon northern commerce have been more instrumental in damaging Republicanism than have been all the outrages and sufferings of the South. BUTLER has been the congressional agent of these scoundrels. Under a vicious law they have been prosecutors, representing the Government, hectoring over merchants and seizing their books, and upon ex parte testimony recovering large sums of money, the half of which went to themselves for the recovery thereof. They have stepped in between regular Government the present session of the General Assembly officers and the Government, getting the benefit of all their information, and after making them assist in the prosecutions, de- ing question, and the resolution was passed priving them of all their legitimate compensation for money recovered from violators of

Of course, with the great temptation of a moiety of the sums recovered, we may readily see how testimony is manufactured, and how the prosecuted are summarily convicted and in the prosecuted are summarily convicted and the prosecuted are summarily the prosecuted are summarily convicted and | 13. compelled to pay under the most outrageous

quite gratifying that the robbers have to run their constitutional and inestimable right to the country indignation now. the gauntlet of northern indignation now. Northern men of means are pursuing them for their outrages, and they are likely to be punished as well as exposed. If they get no better punishment than that of losing the opportunity to continue their depredations that will be very severe. The loss of the chance of making hundreds of thousands is a calamity.

The whole system of moieties to informers is terrible in its effects upon society. It is better that transgression should go unpunished than that the half of fines and forfeitures should go to the informer. Nobody is safe where so fatal a policy is pursued. It was inaugurated by the war, and now that there is peace it should be repudiated.

The New York Herald of Thursday scatters over its pages a short sentence, many times repeated, taken from a speech by the late CHARLES SUMNER, deploring an increase in the volume of the paper currency. The expedient has a very village-paper appearance at best. But it is a pity the Herald could not find a better authority to quote for the benefit of Wall-street brokers, who are ever seeking to run the business of the country into a trap that they may rob the people of millions any "black Friday" they may determine upon. CHARLES SUMNER Was nobody save upon philanthropy run mad. It is in fact conceded that he was neither a lawyer nor political economist, and he is the poorest kind of a financial ghost with which to frighten the members of Congress. We have never will in a short time be paid and the accrued known the Herald to make so silly an essay at influencing public opinion. George FRANCIS TRAIN is a far better authority on

PREPAYMENT ON ALL MAIL MATTER .- The Senate Committee on Post-Offices and Post Roads are considering the propriety of compelling prepayment on all matter transmitted confer with the bondholders, and make with through the mails. Although it is agreed them an arrangement with this view. He that some embarrassment might be occasioned those newspapers that bave a large circulation, still several members of the committee think that the passage of the bill would redound to the credit of both the shown by the value of their bonds relative Government and newspaper proprietors. It is claimed that a large sum of money is lost by the Post-Office Department every year through the failure to collect the amounts due on printed matter, and that slight misunderstandings between postmasters and subscribers relative to this small account leads many of the latter to discontinue the paper hitherto served them. The committee are also given attention to the bill allowing newspapers to cirment to the State finances, and that relief culate through the mails free within the county in which they are published. The bill also contains a clause permitting "free exchanges." Neither proposition, however, payment of taxes is absolutely necessary to was finally acted upon.- Washington Re-

Let all these propositions be adopted as a compromise. The Government will save a hundred thousand dollars annually. The sage asserts that "In view of well-settled newspapers having the largest circulation "principles of public law it is demonstrably | will be in no way injured. Let the law be so much per pound. A wagon-load can be " between us and our creditors, and dividing | weighed and prepaid in money (not stamps) "and destroying the original entity of the in a minute. Then let stamps be done away "Commonwealth, became liable for at least with except on letters and transient newspa-"so much of her debt as is due to non-resi- pers. The presence of matter in the mails must be made evidence that it is prepaid.

> We shall have something to say to the Index-Appeal in our next issue. Governor KEMPER has the floor to-day.

General Assembly of Virginia.

FRIDAY, March 27, 1874.

SENATE. The Lieutenant-Governor in the chair,

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Bailey. WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE. House joint resolution requesting our enators and members in Congress to vote

for an appropriation to William and Mary College was agreed to. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication from the Governor; which will be found elsewhere. On motion of Mr. MEEM, the communica-

FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Penn, from the Committee on Finance, reported, with amendments, House bill entitled "an act for the preservation of oysters and to obtain revenue for the privilege of taking them within the waters of the Com-

Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Banks, reported without amendment Senate bill to incorporate the Bank of Virginia. Mr. Moffett, from the Committee General Laws, reported without amendment an amendment House bill to authorize Ocean

money and to execute a deed of conveyance to secure the payment of the same. Mr. Cochran, from the Committee on Fi nance, reported without amendment Senate bill to amend and reënact the 5th section of enapter 141 of the Gode of 1873 in reference to protest of notes.

Lodge, No. 116, A., F. and A. M., to borrow

Mr. KIRKPATRICK, from the Committee on Public Institutions, reported without amendment Senate bill to amend and recoact clause 1st of section 74 of chapter 78 of the Code of 1873 in relation to the salary of county superintendents of free schools.

MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA BOUNDARY LINE. Mr. MEEM, from the Committee on Federal Relations, presented "a bill to designate the arbitrators to ascertain and fix the boundary between the States of Maryland and Virginia"; which was subsequently taken up and passed. Ayes, 37; noes, 0.

PRESENTED AND REFERRED. By Mr. MEEM: Bill for the relief of the sureties of A. S. Morrissett, late tressurer

of Page county. By Mr. Allan: Bill to provide for repairing the green-house of the Governor's man-

INVESTIGATION OF BASEMENT OFFICES. The following, offered by Mr. MOFFETT,

was adopted: " Resolved, (the House of Delegates concurring). That the Second Joint Committee of Investigation, appointed to inquire further into the condition of bonds, &c., under a resolution of March 4th, 1874, be instructed to investigate also the condition of affairs in all of the basement offices, and report what legislation is necessary for the better protection of the interests of the State; and that they shall have power to send for such persons and papers as they may desire." Mr. Moffert was ordered to inform the

House joint resolution for an extension of was taken up, on motion of Mr. Smith, of Acison; and the question being on agreeing thereto, Mr. GRIMSLEY demanded the pendby the following vote:

AYES.—Messrs, Allan, Bland, Cochran, Connally, Crichter, awson, Duffield, Easthem, Eubank, Evans, Finney, Graham, Grimsley, Herndon, Holaday, Lathrop, Lawson, Maddox, Moffett, Penn, Quesenberry, asgland, Smith of Nelson, Stevens,

EASTERN LUNATIO ASYLUM.

PERSONAL PROPERTY.

towns of the State. In conjunction with the House, the Se at 10 o'clock proceeded to elect a judge for Stafford and King George counties. votes cast in the Senate were for J. B. T. Suttle. Having received a majority on joint ballot (104 out of 105) he was declared duly

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION. Senate bill to authorize the consolidation

of the Richmond and Danville and Piedmont railroads being the unfinished business the Senate proceeded to its consideration. The question being on agreeing to the

amendment of Mr. TAYLOR requiring the company to relinquish its exemption from taxation, Mr. Taylor demanded the pending question, and it was ordered, and the amendment adopted-ayes, 19; nocs, 16. After much debate, Mr. ALLAN moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to. Agreed to-ayes, 19; noes,

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. The House met at 11 A. M.-Speaker HANGER in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr

The Speaker laid before the House a me sage from the Governor, which was read and ordered to be printed. Mr. TAYLOR offered a bill appropriating \$500 for the construction of a building in which the guns of the Norfolk Light Artil-

lery Blues might be kept. BEPORTED FROM COMMITTEES. House bill to allow the voters of Mecklenourg county to vote upon the question of establishing a fence law for the protection of

crops in that county. House bill repealing the law making Smith's river, in the county of Henry, House bill to incorporate the Highland

County Bank of Virginia. Mr. Riddlebarger was, at his own rejuest, excused from further service on the committee for Printing. The Committee for Courts of Justice hav-

ing had under consideration a resolution requiring all executions to be private, report hat it is inexpedient to legislate on the sub-

AN INVESTIGATION ASKED. Mr. MAGRUDER offered the following reso-

"Resolved, That a select committee of se ven be appointed with authority to send for persons and papers, to take into consideraion and report upon the matters, charges, and allegations contained in the minority report of the Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation, made to this House on the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad Company in connection with the extension of said road to Cumberland Gap; which was agreed to. The motion to refer to a committee was rejected.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE was granted Messrs. Rufus S. Jones two days, FRANKLIN, HOLBROOK, BRANCH, HEN-DERSON, and SHUMATE three days each, Lov-ING four days, CRITZ and SELLERS two days each, Powell six days, and LAMKIN seven

PLECTION OF A COUNTY JUDGE. At 1 o'clock P. M., the House-proceeded o the execution of joint order-the election of a county judge of the district composed of King George and Stafford counties. Mr. WALLACE nominated Benjamin T. Suttle,

who, receiving a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected. House joint resolution, on motion of Mr. ANDERSON, in relation to a bill now before the United States Congress for the establish-

A NATIONAL EXCHEQUER

was taken up out of its order. Mr. B. W. Lacy moved to make it the special and continuing order for next Tuesday at 1 P. M. Agreed to.

Senate bill amending the act incorporating the Potomac and Manassas Railroad Company was, on motion of Mr. Round, taken up out of its order, and the substitute offered by the committee agreed to, and the bill passed to its third reading.

House engrossed bill to incorporate the Virginia and Tennessee Border Fair Association, in Washington county. House engrossed bill to amend the charter

of the city of Richmond. GENERAL TAX BILL.

At the expiration of the morning hour special order-which was House bill for the issessment, levy, and collection of taxescame up, the question being upon taxing marriage licenses. After a long and amusing debate it was disagreed to, and the House adjourned at 3 P. M.

Exchanging Greenbacks for Five Per Cent. Bonds the only Financial Re-

form Needed. To the Editor of the Tribune: Sir,-If greenbacks could now be exchanged for United States five per cent, gold bonds, dollar for dollar, we should not be troubled, as we are likely to be, with an accumulation of idle currency in the banks. Had the privilege of converting five per cent. bonds into greenbacks, dollar for dollar, existed last september, there wou'd bave been no panic from an apprehended scarcity of currency. It would puzzie any man to point out how greenbacks would be impaired in usefulness or value by being made convertible at plea sure into five per cent. gold bonds. It would be equally difficult to show how five per cent. gold bonds would be injured it made convertible at pleasure into greenbacks. One result would certainly follow upon the estabisument of inter-convertibility of greenbacks and bonds: they would be thenceforward of equal value, instead of standing some twelve per cent. apart, as at present. The United States are pledged to redeem their greenbacks in coin at the earliest practicable moment, but very few seem to think that moment has come. It is obvious, however, that the only objection to immediate resumption is the existing discount upon greenbacks, and that anything which will reduce or wipe out that discount is a direct step toward specie payment. Five per cent. United States gold bonds being at par, or little above it, greenbacks convertible into these bonds would at once rise to par unless the effect of convertibility should be to reduce the value of the bonds. It is possible, but I think not probable, that the price of the bonds migut be lowered by such a measure; but this result could scarcely be more than a temporary one, while there can be no doubt that the value of the greenbacks, and of course of our whole credit currency, would be largely enhanced. I see no reason why it should not rise to par at once, or very soon after the adoption of such a plan, and in that case specie payments would be practically, and, if deemed expedient, might be technically resumed.

Concering Postal Cards, G. R. Wahle, Esq., Postmaster, Cincinnati: Sir.-Can a postal card be forwarded by altering the address and restamping? If so, what amount of stamp is required? Respect-SEMPLE, KENO & CASSILLY.

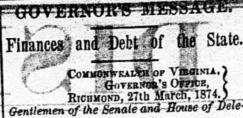
March, 20, 1874.

Post-Office, Cincinnati, March 21, 1874. Messrs. Semple, Reno & Cassilly:

Gentlemen, -In reply to your inquiry in-closed, the Department at Washington has ruled that a postal card having reached its destination, and being delivered from postoffice, cannot be again mailed, except as a letter, at letter rates of postage. Yours respectfully, Gustav R. Wahle, P. M., by Joseph H. Thornton.

SENSIBLE DARKIES .- The Washington ne groes propose to erect a monument to Sumper-a white man. They don't know of any negro that deserves one.

The problem of the party of the of I



The financial condition of the State has been misapprehended and misrepresented in many quarters. It is to be regretted that not only the ability but the willingness, of the State to carry-present indebtedness, has been discussed, and the opinions and purposes of both the legislative and executive departments have been subjected to injurious misconstruction, among some of our creditors. In transmitting to the General Assembly the accompanying memorial of the council of foreign bondholders, I take occasion to note prevailing errors and to submit some considerations bearing upon the solution of our financial difficulties. Public opinion is believed to have been

misled partly by erroneous representations

of our condition abroad, and part'y by miscalculations and errors of the authorities of Virginia in the past. The act of the 30th of March, 1871, commonly known as the funding act, unconditionally pledged the State to the regular and punctual payment, thenceforward, of full interest on the debt which it provided to be newly funded in the name of Virginia. This action appears to have been taken without due calculation of the dimin ished resources of the State, and without needful inquiry into the question of her ability to bear, at this time, the great burthen thus assumed. One of the conse quences is that, although the people are discontented and suffering under existing taxation, rendered very grievous to them by their impoverished circumstances, yet the revenues of the State have not enabled us to fulfil our new obligations. The practical operation of the funding act has proved equally unsatisfactory to both debtor and creditor. No question or doubt of the validity of the act itself, and no impugnment of the motives of its authors, is implied in the declaration that its passage was a surprise to our own people; that it was precipitately enacted, without such previous communication and understanding between the Commonwealth and her creditors, such discovery of the situation, such disclosure of the impoverished and almost ruined condition of the State, as our own necessities, a due respect for the creditor class, and established usage in like cases imperatively demanded. The result is that the new bonds, designed to pledge the State to the payment of no more than two-thirds of the original debt. maintain no higher market value than that repeatedly reached and even exceeded prior to the date of the funding act by the old obligations which represented the whole debt. The result is that, while our people are more dissatisfied than ever, the complaints of creditors are increasing instead of being quieted.

Important principles of finance, as well as the facts of the situation, seem to have been lost sight of in the passage of that act. The object of paramount importance with public creditors, in any adjustment of indebtedness such as ours, is to obtain perfect security for the principal sum agreed upon, and especially for the regular and punctual payment of accruing interest, in the best medium and at the most convenient places. Certainty and punctuality of payment are of greater importance to them than the amount to be paid. The half of a debt perfectly secured, and accompanied with undoubted guarantees for the punctual payment of interest, is far more desirable to the best classes of capitalists, and has greater power and value in financial circles than the whole debt inadequately secured, and with uncertainty, irregularity, and distrust attending stipulated payments of interest.

Such is the disposition of the indebted-Virginia resulting from the funding act and from subsequent legislation modifying or partially suspending its operation, that it may be doubtful if any other arrangement, short of the horrible alternative of repudiation, could well be cerned. A more uncertain, confused, and incongruous arrangement could scarcely be made with public creditors. The principal sum of the debt intended to be assumed by the funding act, the interest pledged upon which is now overdue, is \$30,478,741.49, excluding the amount assigned for settlement with West Virginia. The evidences of this debt proper belong to many and multiform 1st, Coupon bonds payable to bearer with

coupons receivable in payment of taxes; 2d, Coupon bonds payable to order with tax-paying coupons; 3d, Registered bonds convertible into coupon bonds with taxpaying coupons; 4th, Coupon bonds payable to bearer with coupons not receivable for taxes; 5th, Registered bonds not convertible into tax-paying coupon bonds; 6th, Sterling debt funded; 7th, Sterling debt not funded; Stb, Sterling bonds not required to be funded: 9th. A confused mass of old and unfunded certificates of debt, of large amount, issued under a long succession of acts of Assembly, at different times, in givers forms, and for various purposes, and divisable into many classes, but in respect to which important particulars cannot be stated, because nowhere to be found in the public offices; and finally, two distinct classes of new fractional certificates of debt. Not included in any of the foregoing classes, are alleged unascertained liabilities incurred by the State as guarantor. These varied evidences of debt have different values. The best of them usually rate in our own markets at about fifty cents on the dollar. Even to the most favored of the numerous classes of ereditors, the present arrangement full of disadvantages and difficulties. Holders of bonds with coupons due and receivable for taxes find their coupons heavily depreciated and incapable of being passed into the hands of the tax-collector except with expensive circuity and with serious inconveallege to be effectual for further obstructing. or for preventing the future use of such coupons in payment of taxes, serve only to show how inadequate and unwise are the securities hitherto devised for even the most favored class of creditors, and how such insufficient and precarious guarantees for interest must expose us to increasing complaint and distrust as long as the present ad-

Let it not be supposed that any action calculated to further impair the value of taxpaying coupons is intended to be here either suggested or countenanced; on the contrary, it will be presently shown that the true interests of all parties demand that every ground of controversy and distrust between debtor and creditor should be torever removed. Instead of measures to the prejudice of any class of creditors, the rights of all should now be permanently readjusted and placed upon the best ultimately improved footing to be fairly attained. No other obligation can be said to be superior to that which pledges the honor of the state to public creditors, except the obligation to preserve the life of the Commouwealth. Nothing short of the imperious necessity of self-preservation; nothing less than such pressure of creditors as migut imperil the government and deprive us of the means for upholding society and order could give countenance to action calculated to impair the value of coupons or obstruct their pre-

sentation in payment of taxes. A far better and wholly different policy claims our support, and in order to effectuate it let us first clearly comprehend our situation and resources.

sonal property actually subjected to taxation in the State in 1860 was \$585,099,382.77, while the official reports show that property of the value of \$163,556,100 was exempted | dence and a good understanding between the from taxation under the laws then in torce, State and her creditors; in such a settlement thus making the actual aggregate resources of the public indebtedness as will restore reof the State in 1860 equal to \$748,655,482.77. spect for our good taith, as will command | zens of Virginia, and in confidence in their It appears from the same official sources that the assent of creditors and secure to them Queer Calculation.—Bultimore opposes property within the territory embraced in most interest we are now able to pay, only tors, and their bonds were duly sent to Virginia and purchased to be aggregate value of real and personal the regular and punctual payment of the urbane generally been assented to by the credition.—Bultimore opposes

losses in production is to be found in the towhich, grown almost exclusively bacco crop. of Virginia limits 1880, according to the census of that year, to 123,968,31, pounds, and which, by the census of 1870, had in that year fallen to 37,086,364 amounted in pounds. Such losses in every kind of agricultural production are further shown, and measure accounted for in the fact that of the population constituting a most valuable producing class before the war, more than a half million now produce little if anything but a bare living for themselves. In addition to all these evils a vast private indebtedness incurred prior to the general destruction of public and private property by war-an indebtedness which greatly exceeds the whole public debt of the State, no inconsiderable part of which is due outside the Commonwealth, and all of which has been and is being pressed for payment-distresses our people and strains their ultermost esources and energies. The present revenues of the State are large

when compared with her resources. The State revenue for the last fiscal year, excluding costs of collection, amounted to \$2,421,-945.41, while for the same year the additional sum of \$2,217,538.49, besides costs of collection, was drawn from the people in the shape of county, township, road, and local school paid yearly in public taxes, while the aggregate of taxable values stands at \$336,686,433.23. This amount of taxation is exclusive of the very considerable taxes paid to corporations, while a sum far larger than the amount of all other taxes combined is annually drawn from the State by Federal taxation. If full interest should now be paid upon the debt assumed by the funding act, the amount of State and local taxes (excluding costs of collection, also Federal and corporation taxes) would necessarily be increased to the net sum of \$5,964,425.77, for the revenues of the last fiscal year were less than enough to support the government and pay such full interest by the sum of \$1,324, Our real situation is not understood abroad and has been greatly misrepresented.

Public creditors, without knowledge of our

would have commanded. If a fair investiga-

besides being borne down with an enormous | together with the full interest as now agreed, private indebtedness; besides sustaining will be discharged ultimately and just as onerous Federal taxation and meeting the quickly as the best ability of the State will new and great charge of caring for justice bearing the untimely and harrassing burthens | pudiation; to do more is to plunge the Comof a badly complicated government forced monwealth into the abyss of pankruptcy. upon us by an obnoxious State Constitution; Creditors acceding to the proposed plan without help from any quarter, and without | would get all the means possible to be ap having added a dollar to the principal of her plied by the State to the debt, and debt by temporary loan or otherwise, Virginia has paid out since the close of the war more than five millions of dollars upon the would receive with certainty and puncprincipal and interest of her ante-bellum tuality larger payments than those dept. It must be remembered that it is a irregularly made in the past. The execution wasted and mutilated State, shorn of one- of that plan will establish a practicable and third of her territory and more than balf of just understanding between the State and her taxable values, struggling against the her creditors, and will confer positive bene force of unparalleled distress and depression, fits upon both. It will restore the sunken that has rendered this firm proof of her de- credit of Virginia, impart new life to her termination to maintain her plighted faith. It | dead resources, advance the standard of her may be safely affirmed that no other State reputation to the highest possible position and no considerable municipality carries an of financial integrity, entrench the Governamount of debt so excessively dispropor- ment in a stable and permanent policy, and tioned to its resources, or has under the inaugurate a new era of prosperity to be felt greatest disadvantages accomplished so much | by every interest and enterprise in the Comas Virginia. Notwithstanding any errors of monwealth. the past, resulting from haste, transient excitement, or public distress, a full investigation is bound to satisfy the world of Vir- dictate, time will restore to the State ginia's willingness and purpose to perform all of her strength, and render the

The foregoing disclosure, as well of the situation as of our own errors in the past, is made because necessary to be considered the mere increase of revenue to be derived in devising measures for extricating the at existing rates of taxation, from our metro-State from embarrassments in which those errors have involved it. The problem you are called upon to solve is how to restore the present deficiency in the Treasury. credit of the State without imposing upon our own people burthens impossible to be borne. Any separate action of ours must of necessity have regard to the terms of the funding act. However unwise or precipitate its enactment, it were idle now to question its validity. It was the act of competent authority. Under it the bonds of the state ference would be inexpensive, and it have been executed and delivered, and we is not apprehended that our comcannot go behind them. To the extent to missioners would be called beyond the counwhich its provisions have been accepted, it try. Nothing worthy of being styled a conis undoubtedly a binding contract between debtor and creditor, and it is incapable of being modified without the concurrence of both contracting parties. Nevertheless, our utmost resources are insufficient for the prompt and complete fulfilment of all its The proposition is too obviously true to

be argued that direct taxes on lands cannot

now be increased. Such increase would be virtual confi-cation of private property. It the State was subjected to such pressure as would enforce ummediate compliance with all her undertakings it would result in public bankruptcy, and would prove alike disastrous to debior and creditor. While it is still my opinion that if the recommendations of my inaugural message be carried into eftect by the Legislature, much will be accomplished towards raising the credit of the State and meeting immediate demands upon the treasury, yet it is obvious that the desired measures for retrenching expenses and increasing revenue cannot be made fully ef-Constitution, and years will be required for making needful changes of organic law and giving them effect by appropriate legislation. In the mean time, and until such changes can be made to work out desired rewe cannot afford to resign sults, ourselves to the policy of inaction. State credit is prostrate. The bonds of Virginia rate lower in the Stock Exchange of London than those of Egypt, Turkey, or Peru, and our credit ranks in the grade of such countries as Mexico and San Domingo. No grosser fallacy can be conceived than the one which claims that a commonwealth can flourish while its credit is in a state of prostration or dishonor. The revival of production; the vitalizing of our dead resources, depends upon capital, yet to be introduced into the State, and the restoration of public credit is the necessary condition precedent to its introduction. capital will surely shun the State until its credit is established on a sound basis. The capital is yet to be brought here which will nevelop our exhaustless mining and manufacturing resources, and such development is necessary to revive our languishing agriculture by giving a new value to the products of the soil and creating new demands for the fruits of labor. The genial soil and climate of Virginia and her unsurpassed inming,

manufacturing, and commercial resourceare now attracting widespread attention. The best evidences exist that a great influx of immigration and capital may be expected as soon as the integrity and stability of our government shall be demonstrated beyond question. Action tending to impair the public credit, or to depreciace any class of our obligations; the application of surplus means to any purpose other than the payment of the interest due creditors, especially the use of such surplus in the purchase of our own depreciated paper, would inflict lasting and grievous wrong and loss upon our own people. If even partial repudiation were practicable it would subject the state to pecuniary losses very far exceeding the amount of the public debt.

Our real relief is in the restoration of confi-Persecutions.

These proceedings, by which the corrupt partisans have ended the order for Tuesday next at 12 o'clock have originated a great number of suits.

The South is not so much interested in the matter as the North. The beasts and birds of prey have seized upon pretty much all conformations.

Senate bill making additional appropriations to the Eastern Lunatic Asylum was at two of a quarter of a cent per bushel on wheat the corrupt indeed in the new securities, as our poverty remove of a cent per bushel on wheat because on 16,000,000 bushels the tax would be \$400,000! So says the Sun.

On motion of Mr. Evans, the Senate resolved that the Committee for Courts of Justice be and they are hereby requested to indeed the production of the funding additional appropriations to the Eastern Lunatic Asylum was find a fundation of a quarter of a cent per bushel on wheat because on 16,000,000 bushels the tax of a quarter of a cent per bushel on wheat because on 16,000,000 bushels the tax of a quarter of a cent per bushel on wheat because on 16,000,000 bushels the tax of a quarter of a cent per bushel on wheat because of 18,000,000! So says the Sun.

On motion of Mr. Evans, the Senate resolved that the Committee for Courts of Justice be and they are hereby requested to induce the resolution of the funding of cultivated land are diminished in at least of cultivated in the new secretality in the prospect of assessed in the prospect of secretainty in the present limits of Virginia was, in 1860, when the courter of a cent per bushel in the prospect of assessed in the prospect of secretainty in the production of secretainty in the production of the funding of the funding of cultivated in the coupled in the n

can be had with creditors by which we might guarantee with certainty the regular and punctual payment, in semi-annual instalments and at convenient places, of twothirds of the accraing interest for the present, giving proper certificates for the deferred interest, and providing for the payment of full interest, together with al arrearages on interest account, as soon as our steadily increasing resources shall per-

would be paid two-thirds of their tax-paying coupons punctually at maturity; they would be restrained by express stipulation as well as interest from resorting to the circuitous and expensive process of passing their coupons into the hands of the tax collector : and a sufficiency of revenues in money for the support of the government would be certainly and permanently assured to us. In such adjustment it ought to be stipula ted that all our outstanding obligations, included in the numerous and confused classes and grades before enumerated, should be

made first-class debts of uniform terms and character. They are all equally just, and i is not reputable that we should favor any of them with special advantages, or make any distinctions between them. Many of the least favored creditors are our own needy and worthy citizens, who have always been taxes, making the net aggregate \$4,639,483.90 indulgent and liberal in their dealings with the government. It will be easy to secure the proposed payments upon interest, and to invest the

new arrangement with absolute confidence

bodying in it our stipulations with credit ors, which would set apart specified and permanent taxes to be dedicated to the pub lic debt, and to be applied regularly and directly by the proper officers o the State in payment of the interest as i shall fall due. Such a law would be self executing. It could neither be suspended nor interferred with without the concurrence of the contracting parties. It would obviate the necessity for further legislation in the premises, and it would forever extri cate our finances from existing agitation and uncertainty. It is believed that a fair and deliberate conference will result substantially in the settlement now propeculiar embarrassments, have not rendered posed-a settlement providing for us the appreciation which better information payment of such reduced interest for the time being as may correspond with our tion cause surprise, it will not be on account of what the State has failed to do, but what reduced means, and for such greater interest hereafter as will steadily increase with she has, in the face of unprecedented difficulties, accomplished. Besides enduring tre- our increasing population and resources, mendous losses in men, labor, and capital; so that the whole debt as heretofore assumed, permit. It would bind us to do now what educating the suddenly emanci- we are able to do, and it would postpone so colored people and administer- much of our undertakings as we are unable them; besides to perform. To do less on our part is remore than they now receive or can receive under any different plan. They With such wise forbearance on the part

of creditors as their own best interests all her obligations to the utmost extent of burthen of the debt easy to be borne. If the wealth and population of the to increase in the ratio of the past, polis alone, will in a few decades suffice to discharge the unpaid interest and cover the I respectfully recommend the appointment

of two commissioners on behalf of the State, representing its best financial skill and experience, to be charged with the realjustment of the public indebtedness by conference with such agents as may be deputed by creditors to meet them. Such conference with public creditors can be said to have been as yet held, and if the proposed effort failed of a satisfactory and final settlement, such failure would leave us no worse off than we now are, while we should at least have the sustaining consciousness of having discharged a high duty to both the Commonwealth and her creditors, and of

having deserved if not commanded success. It is not improbable that an additional arrangement might be made for further securing the debt and relieving ourselves. In view of well settled principles of public law, it is demonstrably true that the United States, by interposing between us and our credi- days. tors, and dividing and destroying the original entity of the Commonwealth, became liable for at least so much of her debt as is due to non-resident creditors. When the present financial panic shall pass away, it may be reasonably expected that the common gov ernment, which received weslih and power from the munificence of Virginia in the past, will at the least, aid us with the meagre justice of a loan of its bonds, or credit to be fectual except by thoroughly changing the used in securing and extinguishing the public debt.

As germane to the general subject of this message, I herewith transmit communication from the attornies of Messrs. Barring Brothers & Co., asking repayment of the amount advanced by that house for the State on account of interest on the debt. The transaction was one in which Messrs, Barring Brothers & Co., had no pecuniary interest; the sum due them is not larger than the State can at once pay, and it constitutes a debt of nonor which s commended to your favorable action. . The good fortunes of Virginia for many

rears to come depend upon your wise adustment of ner tinances and debt. Without tirm and timely action on your part the government may be very soon in want of the means necessary for its maintenance. Measures are now urgently needed which

will vield greater revenues by enlarging the subjects and by redistributing and equalizing the burthens, without increasing the present rates, of taxation. Deferring respectfully and unfeignedly to

your collective ability and sagacity, I invoke the highest exercise of both in legislation, which will at once keep untarnished the public honor, and remove the great evil which sits like an incubus on the paratyzed energies of the Commonwealth.

JAMES L. KEMPER.

The following are the communications re ferred to in the Governor's message: Bondholders' Memorial

To the House of Delegates of Virginia: The memorial of the council of foreign bondholders of London, acting for and representing the committee of holders of Vi ginia State bonds in Great Britain, showeth :

That the memoralists have advanced various large sums of money to the Commonwealth of Virginia, for which they received titles of security; and that the interest thereon was duly paid for many years until calazaitous occurrences affecting the State of Virginia, payments were suspended.

That, in March, 1871, the Commonwealth of Virginia voted a funding bill, under which the creditors of the State were requested to accept reduced rates of payment In consideration of the sufferings of the citi hopocuble spirit, the conditions so offered

whole action of the funding bill stayed by resolutions of the two Houses of the Legs-lature, passed in the session of 1871-72. These resolutions were vetoed by the Gov. ernor, but still affirmed by a two thirds yote. That subsequent legislation in the sessions 1 1871-72 and 1872-73 has been felt by the bondholders to be most oppressive and unjust in the following particulars-viz.: 1st. The rescinding of the fonding bill of March, 1871. 21. The creation of a class of bonds the coupons of which are not receivable for taxes, &c., whereby the value of the security is greatly depreciated. 31. The reduction of the interest on the bonds from six per cent, to four per cent, per annum. 4th, The imposition of a tax of one-half per cent. on

the market value of each bond. That under these circumstances the memorialists strongly represent to the Assembly that the course pursued by the Assembly has inflicted a great injury on those who in this country have reposed confidence in the national honor of the citizens of Virginia Founded on a common kindred, Virginia has for centuries enjoyed in this country esteem and reputation and the advantages of the credit consequent upon the character of the State and citizens. The bondholders now find themselves sufferers by the confidence and reliance they have shown in Vir-

They felt assured that after her past misfortune the first sentiment of Virginia would be to make the best possible provision for the discharge of her engagements, and it was in this spirit the funding bill was received and accepted.

and certainty, by the passage of a law em That while this infraction of credit inflicts serious damage on the bondhelders, they are convinced that it no less affects the best interests of the State and its citizens. At this time invitations are offered to Englishmen in our daily papers to emigrate to Virginia, and settle in a country having the same population, language, laws, and institutions. These propositions were well regarded, but they are likely now to remain abortive, as well as others for the development of the landed and natural resources of the coun-

That the memorialists feel it their duty to

urge on the consideration of the Assembly

that the natural resources of a country are dependent for their real value on the intelligence and moral capacity of its citizens; that material resources may be wasted by the calamities of war, but that the good name of the State and citizens is an abiding inheritance which may remain in all times. The memorialists therefore solicit that the Assembly will, without delay, restore the funding bill to its full efficiency, or substitute such other measures as may tend to the restoration abroad of the credit and honor of the ancient Commonwealth of Virginia. For the Council of Foreign Bondholders. council-house, Mossgate street, London, 23d

J. GUSTENBURG, Chairman. Hyde Clarke, Secretary.

From Barring Brothers & Co. NEW YORK, March 23, 1874. His Excellency James L. Kemper, Governor of Virginia:

Sir,-In a recent letter received from Messrs. Barring Brothers & Co. they write us as follows: " Virginia .-- Observing with what you say in yours of 30th of January relative to the expected legislation, it seems a proper moment to call attention to our suspense account,' remaining unpaid the last three years, and which arises from our effort to support the credit of the State by advancing the sum necessary to complete a

dividend, and in payment of which, we may

add, we have no pecuniary interest our-

selves. This may fairly be considered a

debt of honer." We would ask your Excellency to be good enough to review the circumstances of this case; and should you find as we believe will be the case that the departments of the government of Virginia take the same view that Messrs. Barring Brothers & Co. do of the circumstances to which they make reference, we would call upon your Excellency, as the Chief Executive of the State, to communicate the facts in a message to the Legislature, reminding them, in conformity with the obligations of your high office, of the duty they are under to provide without delay, and in the best manner compatible with the present circumstances of the Commonwealth, for the prompt liquidation of this wholly exceptional indebtedness.

We have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, truly yours, L. G. & E. C. WARD, Attorneys.

MARKIAGES. Married, on the 26th lustant, in Hearles, at the residence of the oride's father, by Rev. I. T. Wallace, Mr. G.50RGE W. HECHLER to Miss LAURA A. TAYLOR.

Died, on the 26th instant, in Henrico county, MAGGIE LEE, youngest child of J. E. and Maggie L. Sullivan, aged twelve months and finesa

days.

Her funeral will take place from the residence of the late Robert Y. Slater, Hearies county, To-DAY (saturday) at 11 A. M. Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend. Died in Manchester, March 26th, of pneumonia, LIZZIE FLORENCE, daughter of George II, and India A. Taylor, aged eighteen months and tea

Departed this life, in Richmond, Va., on Febraary 14th, Mrs. EMELINE WHEREY, wife of Benjamin C. Wherry; aged sixty-four years.
The subject of this notice was born June 7. 1810; was married March 3, 1829; professed faith in thrist in 1829, connecting herself with the first Presbyterian courch in Lynchburg, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. W. S. iteld. At the link of ther death she was an honored and beloved member of the Grace-Street Presbyterian courch in

For nearly twenty years Mrs. WHEERT had been an invalid from a severe stroke of paralysis and consequently was, for the most part, closely con-fined to her house and chamber. Her habital consequently was and chamber. Her hibitial christian resignation and cheerfulness were wonderful and beautiful to all who knew her. Of quick perception, warm, filection, delicacy of feeling, and eminently social disposition, she was fitted to enjoy social relations and to impart enjoyment to others. She loved the charch and prized is ordinances with a holy and generous delight. It was but rarely her privilege, during the long period of her infirmity, to visit the sanctuary, and then only with great difficulty; buther heart was ever warmly alive to all the interests of the church, and her sweetly patient trust in. God made her life and presence a blessing and a joy to all who knew her. There was often a singular charm in the exhibition of her infirmity of speech, sometimes failing mexpectedly; the expression of her face would convey her meaning when distinct a theulation

tion of her infimily of speech, sometimes taims unexpectedly; the expression of her face would convey her meaning when distinct a ticulation failed her, and a smile of peaceful submission made an ornament of the defect.

Her sickness immediately preceding her death was very painful; but her trust in Gos, and her hope unalimmed tarough it all, was a testimony of the submission and to the ripeness of her spirit for the translation which awaited her. Upon a reference being made to the peculiar dealing of dod with her, she would say, "It is all exactly right." In anticipation of her approaching end, felt to be near, she would say, "I want to go home."

There could be no wore affectionate wife and mother, no more true and constant friend. It was a privilege to know her infinately. It is a geat vacancy which her departure has caused. Her memory is sweetly prectous to many hearts. R. Chistian Observer.

MEETINGS.

Chistian Observer.

NOTICE.—THE DOLLAR SAYINGS
I BANK having been adjudicated a bankrupt, it
is earnestly desired that the caefbors of said bank
shall meet TO-NiGHT at the old stand of the bank,
No. 1400 Main street, at 7% o'clock, to consider
matters of great importance to their laterest.

The 28-kt and o'banasatters.

HEPTASOPHS, OR S. W. M .- A regula HEPTASOPHS, OR S. W. M.—A regular meeting of Ferribon Conclave will be their Thirs (saturday) EVENING at 7% oblock, if Pythan Casle Hall, comer of Main and kleventh streets. As this is the equivalent meeting shore will be overy important basiness to transact. It is required that every manner will be preached. Candidates for degrees with the promotify on hand. By other of the Arcon.

JOHN MAXWELL.

10th 28-11*

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE A STOCKHOLDERS of the CITY FIRE IN-SURANCE COMPANY will be held at the office of the company on MONDAY the fin day of April next at 6 o'clock P. M. the company on MONDAY the sin any next, at 6 o'clock P. M. mh 26-dtd E. B. MEADE, Secretar

MILITARY NOTICES.

TOMPANY D, STONEWALLGUARD, OMPANY D. STONE WALL GUARD,

MARCH 28, 1874.—Members of this company will assumble at armory THIS (saturday)

EVENING at 8 o'clock, in full-dress uniform,

armed, and equippped for drill and business. (of
cers will be elected after dell. By order of Cup
cain Carrington. GEORGE W. EAVES,

inh 28-1t Orderly greats

FISHING-TACKLE!—Just received a large and complete stores of Sishing FACKLE, suitable for any kind of sishing is which the attention of dealers and sportsmen is which the attention of dealers and sportsmen is alled, as the goods and prices cannot fall to please. Also, Canes, Base-Rails, and Pocket Culler, Also, Canes, Base-Rails, and Pocket Culler, T, W. TIGNOR, can base and prices and the please.